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PROCEEDINGS OF THE 82ND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN  
STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., DECEMBER 29-30, 1920

## PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

## 10.00 A. M.—Morning Session

*Topic:* Population and Vital Statistics*Paper:* Some Recent Morbidity Statistics in Industry,  
Edgar Sydenstricker, U. S. Public Health Service*Discussion:*

William A. Hathaway, American Telegraph and Telephone Co., New York

Willford I. King, National Bureau of Economic Research, New York

*Paper:* Conduct of the Office and Field Work of the Fourteenth Census,  
William M. Steuart, Assistant Director of the Census*Discussion:*

Raymond Pearl, Johns Hopkins University

Walter Laidlaw, Executive Secretary, New York City 1920 Census Committee

*Paper:* Standardization of Statistics of State Institutions,

Horatio M. Pollock, Statistician, New York State Hospital Commission

*Discussion:*

Edith M. Furbush, Statistician, National Committee for Mental Hygiene

Eugene B. Patton, Statistician, New York State Industrial Commission

*Paper:* Work of the Paris Conference on the Revision of the International List  
of Causes of Death, George H. Van Buren, Supervisor, Statistical Bureau,  
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., New York, Delegate of the Association to  
this Conference called by the French Government, October 11, 1920

## 2.30 P. M.—Afternoon Session

*Paper:* Underlying Considerations in Wage Determinations for Industry

William A. Hathaway, American Telegraph and Telephone Co.

*Discussion:*

William F. Ogburn, Columbia University

*Paper:* Reduction to Practice of Some Phases of Industrial Medicine,

Dr. C. H. Watson, American Telegraph and Telephone Co.

*Discussion:*

Bernard J. Newman, United States Public Health Service, Washington

*Paper:* Industrial Education and Training,

J. W. Dietz, Western Electric Co., New York

*Discussion:*

C. R. Dooley, Standard Oil Company of New Jersey

## 9.00 P. M.—Evening Session

President's Address, George E. Roberts, Vice-President, National City Bank  
New York

## 10.00 P. M.—Smoker

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

## 9.00 A. M.—Business Meeting

Election of Officers, Reports of Committees, etc.

10.30 A. M.—Morning Session

*Topic:* Index Numbers

*Paper:* What is the Best Form of Index Number? Irving Fisher, Yale University  
(Illustrated with lantern slides.)

*Discussion:*

- Ethelbert Stewart, Commissioner of Labor Statistics
- Wesley C. Mitchell, New School for Social Research, New York
- Warren M. Persons, Harvard Committee on Economic Research, Harvard University
- Correa M. Walsh, Bellport, Long Island
- Walter W. Stewart, Amherst College
- F. Leslie Hayford, Economic Statistician, Du Pont Company, Wilmington, Del.

2.30 P. M.—Afternoon Session

*Topic:* The National Income and Its Distribution

*Paper:* A National Money Accounting as the Basis for Studies of Income Distribution, Malcolm C. Rorty, Statistician, American Telegraph and Telephone Company, New York

*Paper:* Variation in the National Real Income, Edmund E. Day, Harvard University

*Discussion:*

- Carl Synder, Statistician, Federal Reserve Bank of New York
- David Friday, University of Michigan
- Walter R. Ingalls, Consulting Engineer, New York
- Leo Wolman, New School for Social Research, New York
- Nicholas Kelly, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Meeting called to order at 9. A. M., December 30, 1920, President George E. Roberts presiding.

Reports were submitted as follows:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR 1920

The following report is submitted with respect to the condition of the Association:

Membership December, 1919.....	869
Additions during 1920:	
New members.....	210
Corporate members.....	4
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Total.....	214
* Deductions during 1920.....	95
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Net gain during 1920.....	119
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Membership December, 1920.....	988
* Above deductions during 1920 are distributed as follows:	
Deaths reported during the year.....	6
Resignations during year.....	32
Dropped because unable to locate.....	21
Dropped for non-payment of dues.....	36
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Total.....	95

Besides members we have:

Subscribers, mostly libraries . . . . .	258
Domestic exchanges . . . . .	21
Foreign exchanges . . . . .	61

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Total members, subscribers and exchanges . . . . . 1,324

The death of the following members has been reported during the year: O. C. Barber, Edwin M. Bliss, A. F. Estabrook, William H. Gove, George D. Leslie, H. E. Vineberg.

Four numbers of the publications have been issued during 1920, containing an aggregate of 531 pages, as compared with 331 pages during 1919.

Two special meetings of the Association have been held during the year, in April and November. The attendance at these meetings was 72 and 142 respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK, *Secretary*.

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR 1920

##### *Receipts*

Membership dues . . . . .	\$3,182.60	
Sales, single copies of the QUARTERLY . . . . .	362.29	
Sales, Memorial Volume:		
Sales to members . . . . .	\$143.48	
Sales through Macmillan Co. . . . .	253.72	
		<hr/>
Total . . . . .	397 20	
Subscriptions to QUARTERLY . . . . .	749 82	
Dividends on B. & A. Stock . . . . .	148 75	
Balance on hand at first of year . . . . .	659.47	
		<hr/>
		\$5,500.20

##### *Expenditures*

##### Printing:

##### Printing QUARTERLY Publications:

December, 1919 . . . . .	\$501.22
March, 1920 . . . . .	776.10
June, 1920 . . . . .	580.70
September, 1920 . . . . .	460.30
(Part payment \$500 still due)	
Handbook of members . . . . .	219.62

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Total . . . . .	\$2,537.94
Other printing expense, stationery, etc. . . . .	395.28

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Total Printing . . . . .	\$2,933.22	
Postage . . . . .	173.55	
Salaries . . . . .	1,141.65	
Part payment on \$1,500 Memorial Volume loan . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on Memorial Volume loan . . . . .	80.53	
Expenses, miscellaneous . . . . .	247.69	
Balance on hand December 21, 1920 . . . . .	223.56	
		<hr/>
		\$5,500.20

## REPORT ON MEMORIAL VOLUME FUND 1920

*Receipts*

Balance from 1919.....	\$56.11
Sales to members at special rate (\$3.50).....	143.48
Sales through Macmillan Co.....	253.72
Deficit paid out of general funds.....	338.89
	———— \$792.20

*Expenditures*

Printing circulars.....	\$11.67
Part payment on \$1,500 loan.....	700.00
Interest on loan.....	80.53
	———— \$792.20

*Payable*

The Association has \$800 loan on account of the Memorial Volume still outstanding with the Corn Exchange Bank, New York. It also owes the Rumford Press \$500 for printing, due on the September issue.

*Assets*

Seventeen shares Boston & Albany R. R. stock deposited as collateral with the Corn Exchange Bank, for Memorial Volume loan. Unsold copies of the Memorial Volume.

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK,  
*Treasurer.*

## REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

We have audited the accounts of the Treasurer of the American Statistical Association as of the close of business December 20, 1920, and find all disbursements properly accounted for by cancelled checks and vouchers. We have also verified the treasurer's record of receipts and disbursements, as shown by his books, with the cash balance on hand, as shown by the bank statement, and find the same in agreement.

As is customary, we have made no audit of accounts payable and receivable.

DONALD R. BELCHER,  
B. F. YOUNG,  
*Auditing Committee.*

The reports of the Secretary-Treasurer and Auditors were accepted and ordered printed in the proceedings.

## REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATIONS

The editor outlined the plan, already in progress during the past year, for improving the QUARTERLY by developing a section on reviews and notes and sources of statistical information, and for keeping the editorial committee more closely in touch with the statistical work being done in various fields. He pointed out that it would be desirable to offer a limited number of reprints, free of charge, to authors contributing to the QUARTERLY. Suggestions have come to the editor during the year concerning a change of name for our publications. The proposed names were considered and the Association authorized the Secretary to submit to the members of the Association the following names for vote of preference, a report to be submitted at the next annual meeting: Journal of the American Statistical Association; American Statistical Quarterly; American Statistical Review; Statistical Association Quarterly.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

## THE JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE CENSUS

The report of the Joint Committee of the American Economic and the American Statistical Associations was presented and accepted, as printed in the Quarterly Publications for December, 1920. The Association adopted the following resolutions with reference to this report:

In accepting the report of progress of the Joint Committee to advise the Director of the Census, the American Statistical Association desires to record its hearty approval of the policy of eliminating nearly all the text from census publications for the purpose of hastening the appearance of the bulletins and final reports of the Fourteenth Census, a policy adopted by the Bureau of the Census after conferences with the Joint Committee.

The Statistical Association, further, approves the recommendation made by the Joint Committee to the Bureau of the Census that it prepare and publish systematic scientific analyses of the census results in the form of monographs on the more important census topics. These monographs should be prepared by the Bureau of the Census with the coöperation of specialists in the various topics selected for treatment.

The representatives of the Statistical Association are hereby authorized to urge this policy and to express the conviction of this Association that an adequate interpretation of census figures constitutes an essential and in many respects the most significant part of the work upon the census.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FELLOWS

Carroll W. Doten, Chairman, reported the agreement of the Committee in electing the following members as Fellows of the Association, as authorized by Article V of the Constitution: F. Stuart Chapin, Roland P. Falkner, Abb Landis, William F. Ogburn, Raymond Pearl, and Ethelbert Stewart.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS STATISTICS

The Committee on Business Statistics during the past year has continued the activities outlined in its report for the year 1919. The concrete results obtained include the preparation, and practically the final acceptance by the Boot and Shoe Manufacturers Association and the Automobile Chamber of Commerce, of schedules covering the output of boots and shoes and of automobiles. These schedules have also been discussed informally with representatives of the Division of Manufactures of the Bureau of the Census.

The next step following the preparation of these schedules will be to secure, particularly as to statistics of automobile production, the necessary legislative authority and appropriations to enable the Bureau of the Census to undertake the compilations. The pressure of work on the Census Bureau in connection with the 1920 census, as well as the pressure of other business on Congress, has, however, made it seem desirable to withhold action in this respect until after the close of the present year. Several consultations have, nevertheless, been held with the officials of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in order to secure their support for the necessary legislation. It is believed that such support can be counted upon, and that final action should be secured during the winter or spring of the year 1921.

In addition to the preceding activities of the committee, there has been a rather extensive discussion, with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and various trade associations, of the possibility of securing the setting up of a number of other indices as to which primary compilation would be made by the trade associations.

Efforts along this line offer a promising field for the work of the committee during the ensuing year.

Owing to the increasing interest in statistical research on the part of business concerns, it is the belief of the committee that it should not attempt to cover the entire field of business statistics, but should be known as "The Committee on Business and Production Indices," and a change of title of the committee in accordance with this suggestion is recommended.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

The report of the Nominating Committee, consisting of Edmund E. Day, Chairman, Joseph A. Hill and N. I. Stone, was presented for final action. The Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the nominations as presented. The following officers for the year 1921 were declared elected: President, Carroll W. Doten; Vice Presidents, Ernest S. Bradford, Louis I. Dublin, William M. Steuart; Counsellors, Raymond Pearl, Warren M. Persons, Malcolm C. Rorty; Secretary-Treasurer, Robert E. Chaddock; Librarian, Horace L. Wheeler; Editor, William F. Ogburn.

#### CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

The Association voted to amend by-law two in such a manner as to read, "Each regular member shall pay annual dues of *five dollars*, or *fifty dollars* at some one time, each fellow shall pay annual dues of five dollars, or fifty dollars at some one time, and each corporate member shall pay annual dues of one hundred dollars."

The Association voted to appropriate \$600, as provided last year, for securing assistance in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Association referred to the Board with power the matter of change in the rate of subscription to the Quarterly Publications and of the time when such rate should be made effective.

The Board was instructed to make investigation as to cost of printing our publication and all possible means of reducing printing expenses.

The matter of providing appropriate organization to meet the needs of business statisticians in their fields of research was discussed informally and left to the Board to work out, under the power given by the by-laws, section three, to organize Committees.

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK,  
*Secretary.*

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#### THE CENSUS OF THE ITALIAN POPULATION FOR 1921

In all of the ex-belligerent nations the first census to be taken after the declaration of peace will be of the greatest importance as it will make known, with exactness, the great changes in population caused by the war. But in Italy the next census assumes a special importance because it consecrates the completion of Italian National Unity in the annexation of lands which for centuries have been dear to every Italian heart. The Superior Council of Statistics, at the meetings held from November 20 to 24, defined the regulations according to which this census shall be conducted. It will be started December 1, 1921, and this date will be kept thereafter for future censuses, which will follow at intervals of ten years.

This census will be a purely demographic one for ascertaining the population only. The combining of such a census with that of the industrial census in 1911 did not bring good results; it was therefore deemed advisable by the Supreme Council to